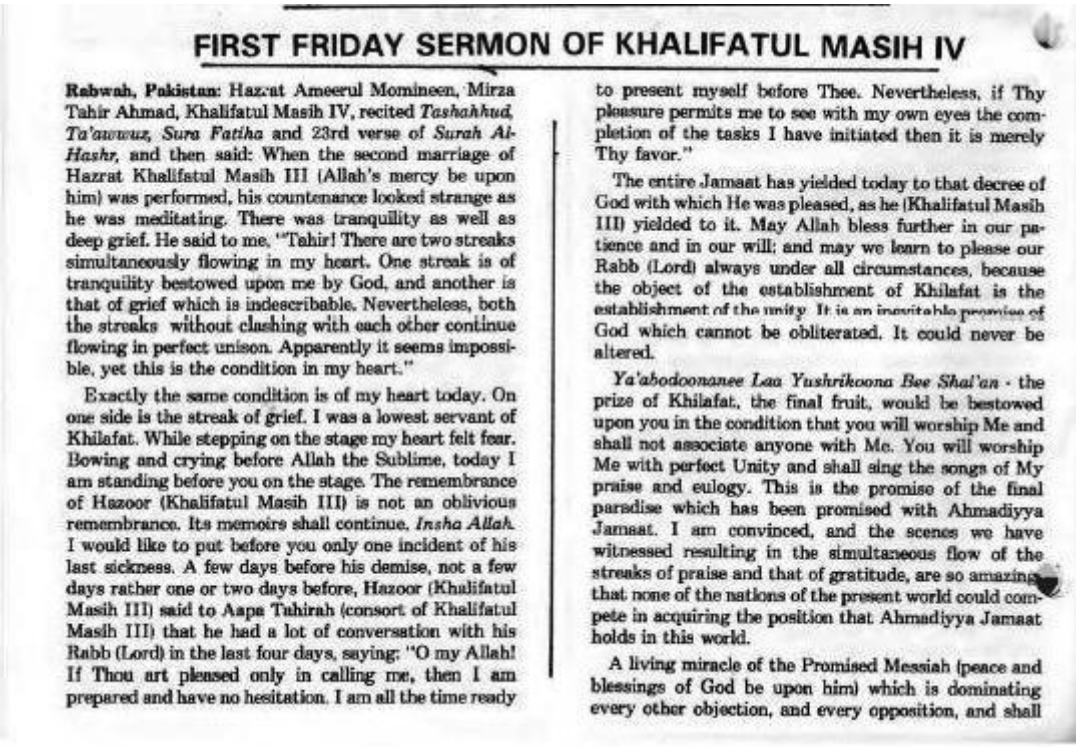
English Translation of the Friday Sermon Delivered by Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad – Khalifatul Masih IV on 11th June 1982 in Rabwah - Pakistan

He is Allah; there is none worthy of worship except Him, Knower of the unknown and the known. He is the Gracious the Merciful.

The Holy Quran. Al Hashr [The Gathering]: 23.



FIRST FRIDAY SERMON OF KHALIFATUL MASIH IV

Rabwah, Pakistan: Hazrat Ameerul Momineen, Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IV, recited *Tashahhud, Ta'awwuz, Sura Fatiha* and 23rd verse of *Surah Al-Hashr*, and then said: When the second marriage of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III (Allah's mercy be upon him) was performed, his countenance looked strange as he was meditating. There was tranquility as well as deep grief. He said to me, "Tahir! There are two streaks simultaneously flowing in my heart. One streak is of tranquility bestowed upon me by God, and another is that of grief which is indescribable. Nevertheless, both the streaks without clashing with each other continue flowing in perfect unison. Apparently it seems impossible, yet this is the condition in my heart."

Exactly the same condition is of my heart today. On one side is the streak of grief. I was a lowest servant of Khilafat. While stepping on the stage my heart felt fear. Bowing and crying before Allah the Sublime, today I am standing before you on the stage. The remembrance of Hazoor (Khalifatul Masih III) is not an oblivious remembrance. Its memoirs shall continue, *Insha Allah*. I would like to put before you only one incident of his last sickness. A few days before his demise, not a few days rather one or two days before, Hazoor (Khalifatul Masih III) said to Aapa Tahirah (consort of Khalifatul Masih III) that he had a lot of conversation with his Rabb (Lord) in the last four days, saying: "O my Allah! If Thou art pleased only in calling me, then I am prepared and have no hesitation. I am all the time ready to present myself before Thee. Nevertheless, if Thy pleasure permits me to see with my own eyes the completion of the tasks I have initiated then it is merely Thy favor."

The entire Jamaat has yielded today to that decree of God with which He was pleased, as he (Khalifatul Masih III) yielded to it. May Allah bless further in our patience and in our will; and may we learn to please our Rabb (Lord) always under all circumstances, because the object of the establishment of Khilafat is the establishment of the unity. It is an inevitable promise of God which cannot be obliterated. It could never be altered.

Ya'abodoonanee Laa Yushrikoona Bee Shai'an - the prize of Khilafat, the final fruit, would be bestowed upon you in the condition that you will worship Me and shall not associate anyone with Me. You will worship Me with perfect Unity and shall sing the songs of My praise and eulogy. This is the promise of the final paradise which has been promised with Ahmadiyya Jamaat. I am convinced, and the scenes we have witnessed resulting in the simultaneous flow of the streaks of praise and that of gratitude, are so amazing that none of the nations of the present world could compete in acquiring the position that Ahmadiyya Jamaat holds in this world.

A living miracle of the Promised Messiah (peace and blessings of God be upon him) which is dominating every other objection, and every opposition, and shall

remain dominating, is the establishment of Ahmadiyya Jamaat, and its training, and its graceful manners and its characteristics. Such graceful manners cannot be seen anywhere in the world. This Jamaat is incomparable, having such passion, such love, such attachment that its sight turns one to envy it. Despite having love, envy is inevitable. It is feared that they may not be exceeding in their love with us. This situation is such that in reality not only its example is not found on the surface of the world, rather the example of its trace could not be seen. Through the Grace of God this Jamaat has set upon the unity in such a way, and God the Exalted has favored their disposition with such things to secure it from machination which could not be terminated by any power of the world. The precautionary plans are made to secure from machinations are in obedience to the command, and not due to the fear, because we do not have the choice to dispel the fear. It is a promise from God in respect of Khilafat.

Wa Layubaddilannahum Min Ba'adi Khaufihim Amnan. It is He who dispels the fear and the servant has not the power to do so. Nevertheless, in obedience to the command, abiding by the decree of Allah, a plan is adopted. The plan has no other significance than this. Plans are adopted but the complete trust and perfect reliability is on God alone, that He will never let Ahmadiyya Khilafat to perish. It will ever remain firm and lasting. He shall ever keep it alive, afresh, vigorous and perfumed with lasting fragrance in the shape of a good tree about which the promise of Allah the Exalted is: *Aslohaa Thaabitun Wa Faro'haa Fis Samaa To'tee Okolohaa Kulla Heenin Beizni Rabbihaa*. It is the good tree whose roots are deep rooted in the ground and none of the world's power could uproot it. It is not an evil tree to which whoever wishes or perceives in his heart can hold it and throw it from one place to another. Neither storm nor wind could shake it from its place; and its branches reaching into heaven are in conversation with their Lord. It is such an evergreen tree and such an amazing tree that it remains evergreen and never sees the face of autumn. *To'tee Okolohaa Kulla Heenin* Everytime, every moment, it continues receiving fruit from its Lord. It is beyond the approach of the autumn time. It yields fruit by the command of Allah. It is devoid of any human adulteration.

This was the scene which the Ahmadiyya Jamaat witnessed with their eyes within the past one or two days. They perceived it in their hearts. The souls fall in prostration after seeing this scene and sing the paeans of praise before God. So there was praise accompanied with grief at the same time. They shall continue a long time simultaneously. The aspect of praise and that of gratitude is everlasting. It is an eternal aspect which is not connected with any person. It was neither connected in the past with the person of any Khalifa nor it is connected with me, nor it is attached with the person of any Khalifa in the future. It is connected with the office of the Khilafat. It is an aspect which is living and luminous and shall never taste death. *Insha Allah Ta'ala*. However, there is one condition, and that is *Wa'adallahollazeen Aamanoo Minkum wa Amilussaalihaati* Take care, God is promising to you that He shall appoint you His Khalifa, but He lays certain responsibilities upon you too. He promises with those who believe and do appropriate action. If the Jamaat stick to the virtues; and we pray and shall ever try that the Jamaat should stick to virtue always with patience and faithfulness, then this promise of God the Sublime too shall continue to be fulfilled in our favor; and the Ahmadiyya Khilafat in its entire effulgence turning into a good tree shall continue blossoming like a tree whose branches reach into heaven.

I would like to direct your attention towards another aspect also. Whenever there is an incident of demise or an event of departure, people are used to pass resolutions, and they do contain loquacities and exaggerations. However, as far as the traditions of Ahmadiyya Jamaat are concerned, I have looked around and I say with full conviction that in Ahmadiyya Jamaat at times, there is no question of exaggeration, even words are not found to express what is in the heart. Whatever the feelings are, the Jamaat tries to express true sentiments.

At this time, a departing one would be bidden goodbye, and the coming one would be welcomed by the words of *Ahlan Wa sahlan wa Marhaban*. But I would like to draw the attention towards another aspect, and would like to bring a change in the resolutions. No doubt our every saying is true, notwithstanding, the custom of resolutions is like a show piece, and the prestige of Ahmadiyya Jamaat demands of us more than this. Hence, our resolutions should be of a different type. They should be of this type: O! Departing one we shall ever enliven your good memoirs. We shall continue carring out all those good works with complete faith, perfect courage, seeking power from God, and by using the last drop of our blood in beautifying them which for the attainment of the pleasure of God you had initiated. Though, your soul could not find solace in this world from the scenes of the completion of those works, yet O our departing master, your soul shall certainly find tranquillity from the scenes of the completion of those projects in that world. We pledge with thee, that is, we pledge with thy remembrance. And our real pledge is with our Lord, and He is it Who is a Living Reality and man has no reality at all. Hence, if there ought to be resolutions they should be with this pledge.

You should also express allegiance through resolution to the coming one by saying: O! Coming one, we extinguish from our hearts the lamps of disobedience and sins; and kindle the lamps of *Taqwa* (righteousness); and invite you to descend in the heart in which the candles of taqwa have lit up. We pledge with thee, that in the efforts of the establishment of Shariat, which could not be acquired without the Grace of God, supplicating we shall help thee. As no individual can redeem the right of this magnificent task, we are like one body, like such a body which does not draw any line

of demarcation between Khilafat and Jamaat, like a palpitating heart, like one hand rising and falling, advancing like one step we shall cooperate with thee in all good works. We shall try that the criterion of God's worship in place after place be elevated; the mosques be seen inhabited more than before; the hearts be illumined more with the remembrance of God; the disputes and disturbances be eliminated leaving not a trace of them. We should witness the scene of such perfect brotherhood and love in the world which could be called the heaven of this world. And once that is established, the dreams of the next world paradise in fact could be seen.

We shall try our utmost to perpatuate the message of the Promised Messiah (peace and blessings of God be upon him). We shall try to remove those weaknesses which have crept in. We shall try to be bestowed with such virtues, that we could find a new fruit of the virtues.

When we pass such types of resolutions, then they entail certain responsibilities with them. If they are mere resolutions like others, then they are not particularly binded with any responsibility. When the hearts would come across with these resolutions, then a pure change will be created; a current of virtue shall run. As a matter of fact, this is what is meant by *Tajdeedi Baiat*—the renewal of pledge of allegiance, and that is its spirit and philosophy. Else one who is already Muslim, whose heart is affliated, what need he has to initiate outwardly. It has an object, which is essential too. Because, had not been essential, there would not have been any need to make Baiat to any Khalifa after the Baiat of our Master Hazrat Muhammad Mustafa (Peace and blessings of God be upon him). After this Baiat which with the name of Baiati Rizwan had been illumining like the bright stars of the sky, what was the need of any Baiat - the Baiat of Abu bakr of Umar or Usman. Hence, Baiat is essential, and it is Sunnat which we have to keep alive and establish under all circumstances. it is necessary, therefore, that through the words of baiat at the time of renewal when the hearts are involved in a special sort of pain, a new life is found, a new spirit is achieved. This time is of a new resuscitation. Hence, value this time, and let not it slip from your hand.

I am feeling one thing within myself. I felt that I had died yesterday and a new person has emerged now. And I pray, that a resurrection may take place in this sense, and new people may emerge from house to house. May the magnificent task of hoisting the flag of the religion of Hazrat Muhammad Mustafa (Peace and blessings of God be upon him) all over the world; of dominating Islam over all other false religions should usher in through our hands as a result of these, our transformations. May we be presented with triumph before God on the Day of Qiyamat, O Master! We had nothing. Thy showered all Grace, it is Thy favor that Thou selected the unfit servants. May Allah the Exalted empower us of this. Amen.

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